

HEALTH  
A 30 AUG 1961  
C.R. 2

THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
( WEST SUFFOLK )

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REPORT



Of The

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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1960

P. COGGIN BROWN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.



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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health of the Rural District of Thingoe, in the  
County of West Suffolk, for the year ended 31st. December 1960.

1, Northgate Street,

Bury St. Edmunds.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Public  
Health Service for the year 1960.

The reduction in the estimated population of the district is  
believed to have been caused by the closure of a Services establishment.

The birth rate and death rate increased, but both rates compare  
favourably with those for England and Wales. A further welcome reduction  
occurred in the infant mortality rate.

The incidence of infectious disease was very low, but one case of  
poliomyelitis was reported.

Much useful work has been done to secure the improvement of sub -  
standard houses, and further progress has been made with the survey of  
housing conditions throughout the district.

During the year under review it became increasingly clear that  
the services of an Additional Public Health Inspector would be needed  
in order that the full range of duties of your Public Health Department  
could be performed efficiently. The matter was reported to the Public  
Health Committee early in 1961 when the Committee recommended, and the  
Council confirmed, that an Additional Public Health Inspector be  
appointed.

My thanks are due to Mr. F. Holmes, your Public Health Inspector,  
for his loyal support at all times and, during this year in particular,  
for the willing manner in which he has carried the burden of his  
increasing duties.

Finally I should like to express my thanks to the Chairman and  
Members of the Public Health Committee and to all the Officers of the  
Council for their continued interest and encouragement.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

P. COGGIN BROWN

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

P. COGGIN BROWN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

This Officer holds in addition the following appointments :-

Medical Officer of Health - Borough of Bury St. Edmunds.

Assistant County Medical Officer	}	West Suffolk County Council.
School Medical Officer		

Public Health Inspector

F. HOLMES, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Meat and Other Foods Certificate R.S.H.

Hons. Diploma I.P.H. & H.

This Officer is also appointed Inspector under the Petroleum and Explosives Acts.

Clerk/Typist

N. GRAINGE

Rodent Operator

H. MILLS

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor C.J.W. Blackburne, Chairman.

Councillor The Revd. W.E. Harris, Vice-Chairman.

Councillors

H.H. Cawston

Major S.P.L.A. Lithgow

F.G. Copping

E.J. Mitchell

A.H. Gooch

\* G.W. Reeve

R.F. Grimwood

Mrs. N.J. Smith

C.W.G. Hatten

W.J. Tuck

Mrs. L.A. Hudson

J.R. Turner

F.G. Lebbon

N.R. Whitwell

\* Vice-Admiral J.W. Rivett-Carnac

\* Indicates Ex-Officio Member



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

GENERAL STATISTICS.                      Area    ..    ..    106,739 acres.

Registrar General's estimate of the resident population.	<u>1960</u> 19,490	<u>1959</u> 20,110	<u>1958</u> 20,480
Rateable Value.	£158,573	£156,920	£149,369
Sum represented by Penny Rate.	£621	£617	£583

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

POPULATION. The Registrar General's estimate of the population showed a further reduction of 620, the figure for 1960 being 19,490.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	..	..	..	170	147	317
Illegitimate	..	..	..	6	8	14
Totals :				<u>176</u>	<u>155</u>	<u>331</u>

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	17.0	15.6
Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 population	18.7.	17.6
Birth Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	17.1	16.5
Legitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	95.7	96.2

There was a rise in the Birth Rate, and when corrected for the age and sex distribution of the population (comparability factor 1.10) the figure remained appreciably above that for England and Wales as a whole.

<u>STILLBIRTHS.</u>				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	..	..	..	6	3	9
Illegitimate	..	..	..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals:				<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	26.5	24.8
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births England and Wales	19.7	20.7

<u>DEATHS.</u>			<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population			9.5	8.5
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population			9.6	8.4
Death Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales			11.5	11.6

There was a rise in the death rate from the record low figure for 1959 but the corrected rate (comparability factor 1.01) remained substantially below that for England and Wales.

More deaths occurred from heart and circulatory diseases, and the number caused by cancer of the lung or bronchus increased from 5 to 8. A melancholy feature of the death returns was the loss of 11 lives from accidental causes, only one of which was due to a motor vehicle accident. One death occurred from suicide.

# INFANT MORTALITY.

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.			
Legitimate .. .. .	2	2	4
Illegitimate .. .. .	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals :	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births		1960	1959
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births		12.1	28.6
England and Wales		21.7	22.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births		12.1	15.9

It is to be expected that the infant mortality rate will vary widely from year to year because the figure is based upon a relatively small number of births, but even so, it is gratifying to report that 1960 was the second consecutive year in which there was a substantial fall. The figure of 12.1 per 1,000 live births is the lowest recorded in the district in the last decade and very much less than the national rate, which was itself a record low figure. Prematurity, congenital malformation and birth injury were the causes of infant deaths all of which occurred in the first four weeks of life.

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS										
	YEAR									
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Birth Rate (Corrected)	17.3	17.7	24.8	18.5	16.8	16.7	18.8	18.8	17.6	18.7
Death Rate (Corrected)	11.3	9.8	10.0	10.1	8.4	10.4	10.4	9.0	8.4	9.6
Infant Mortality Rate	33.0	30.1	24.6	19.9	21.1	27.9	27.9	35.3	28.6	12.1
Number of Infant Deaths	8	8	9	6	6	8	12	12	9	4

The following table gives the causes and the number of deaths which occurred during 1960 :-

					Registrar General's Figures			
					Male		Female	
					1960	(1959)	1960	(1959)
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..			-	(1)	-	(-)
2. Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..		-	(-)	-	(-)
3. Syphilitic disease	..	..	..		-	(-)	-	(-)
4. Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	-	(-)	-	(-)
5. Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	-	(-)	-	(-)
6. Meningococcal infections	..	..			-	(-)	-	(-)
7. Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..		-	(-)	-	(-)
8. Measles	..	..	..	..	-	(-)	-	(-)
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases					-	(-)	-	(-)
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach		..			-	(5)	-	(1)
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus					5	(5)	3	(-)



					<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>	
					<u>1960</u>	<u>(1959)</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>(1959)</u>
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..		-	(-)	1	(4)
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..		-	(-)	-	(-)
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms				10	(13)	15	(7)
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	..	..	1	(-)	-	(-)
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	-	(-)	5	(-)
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system				13	(12)	15	(12)
18.	Coronary disease	..	..	..	31	(16)	11	(10)
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..			-	(2)	2	(4)
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	6	(13)	13	(13)
21.	Other circulatory diseases	..	..		4	(4)	6	(5)
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	-	(3)	-	(-)
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	2	(2)	4	(4)
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	1	(2)	1	(1)
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system				2	(1)	2	(-)
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..			1	(-)	-	(1)
27.	Gastritis	..	..	..	-	(1)	-	(-)
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..		-	(-)	-	(-)
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..		1	(2)	-	(-)
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..			-	(-)	1	(-)
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..		-	(3)	4	(2)
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases				6	(5)	7	(7)
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..		1	(3)	-	(2)
34.	All other accidents	...	..	..	8	(-)	2	(2)
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	1	(4)	-	(1)
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..			-	(-)	-	(-)

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948. Section 47.

On two occasions during the year it was necessary to take action under this section of the Act to secure admission to hospital of aged persons who were suffering from grave chronic disease and were in urgent need of proper care and attention. One patient died on the day following her admission to hospital, but the other made a good recovery and was discharged to live with a relative under very much better conditions in an adjoining district.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year. These are the final numbers after corrections made either by the Notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

					<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	8	2
Measles	..	..	..	..	7	1
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	3	4
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	2	2
Peurperal Pyrexia		..	..	..	-	2
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	1	-
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	-	1

The lower incidence of measles and of scarlet fever accounted for the reduction in the total number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year.

Poliomyelitis. One case of paralytic poliomyelitis was notified. The patient, a girl aged  $1\frac{1}{2}$  years, had received the first two injections of vaccine, and it is gratifying to report that by the end of the year she had made very good progress towards full recovery.

Considerable numbers of children and young adults were vaccinated against poliomyelitis at the Child Welfare Centres provided by the West Suffolk County Council at Barrow, Ixworth, Honington, Rougham and Bury St. Edmunds, and some were treated by their family doctors. Since the end of the year an outbreak of poliomyelitis at Ipswich has caused a marked increase in the local demand for vaccination against this disease.

Typhoid Fever. No case was notified during the year, but on two occasions detailed investigations were made concerning contacts of patients known to be suffering from typhoid fever in other parts of the country. Negative results were obtained in each case.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY

NEW CASES

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Pulmonary	3	1	5	6	5	3	10	6	7
Non-Pulmonary	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	1	Nil	1	2	4

Ages of Cases notified during 1960 :

Pulmonary : One male 40; One male 20; One male 22:  
Non-Pulmonary: Nil:

MORTALITY

No death occurred from tuberculosis during the year.



# TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1.Cases at 1st.January 1960.	15	28	2	2	17	30
2.Notified first in 1960.	3	-	-	-	3	-
3.Restored to Register.	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.Added by Transfers.	-	1	-	-	-	1
5.Cases removed from Register.	4	5	-	-	4	5
6.Remaining 31st.December 1960.	14	24	2	2	16	26

## CLINICS.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at the following centres in Thingoe Rural District :-

Honington	The Aerodrome	Every Tuesday.
Ixworth	Village Hall	3rd.Thursday.
Rougham	Village Hall	3rd.Friday.
Barrow	Village Hall	4th.Friday.

The above Clinics and other Health and Welfare Services are provided by the West Suffolk County Council.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The increase in the number of properties having a mains water supply led to a greater use of ditches for disposal of waste. In view of the nature of the sub-soils in this area, however, this problem is likely to continue until sewerage provision can match the demand; a long and costly matter. The sections which follow indicate the degree of progress achieved and the problems still to be dealt with.

This information has been supplied by :-

S.M. CASSON, M.I.MUN.E., A.M.I.P.H.E.,

Engineer and Surveyor.

1. WATER SUPPLY. The Council's water undertaking provided an adequate supply during the year, all samples having proved satisfactory both chemically and bacteriologically. At no time has there been any shortage of water and there were no major breakdowns during the year. In the second quarter however, a breakdown in the mains supply to Gipping Rural District Council entailed extra pumping, the pumps running continuously for three days and nights producing two million gallons per day.

Demands for new tapplings have continued unabated and in many cases properties far from main highways have been connected. It is to be hoped that all the properties in the district will soon have an internal piped supply both pure and abundant. There is still some prejudice in certain quarters against a mains supply but this is chiefly from elderly owner occupiers who are loth to commit themselves to expenditure not within their immediate means.

Total New Connections .. 220

In addition several dwellings were supplied from metered services.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. Work on this important amenity has gone on as fast as possible and more schemes are under preparation. The Coney Weston and Barningham schemes with the Rougham Stage I scheme were completed. Details for submission were completed on the Risby, Flempton, West Stow, Culford and Ingham five parish scheme and work was started on surveying Hopton and Hepworth for inclusion in the 1961 programme. Approval has been received on Stanton Stage II scheme which went to tender in December and it is hoped that Thedwastre Rural District Council will be in a position to proceed with their plans for Thurston so that the joint scheme with Gt. Barton can go ahead. This village has increased its population by 50% in ten years and it is in urgent need of such an amenity.

Owners are being encouraged to connect their properties as the sewer is laid thus minimising cost to them and also eliminating the need to break into the sewers at a later stage. In addition the available grants are being brought to their notice including the closet conversion grant offered by the Council.

The renewal of the Borough sewerage system is now in progress and the resewering of Fornham All Saints should be completed early in 1961.



3. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL. The system of weekly collection of refuse in all parishes has continued to work satisfactorily, and with only minor modifications to the rounds originally planned. Alongside the improvement in frequency of collections the distribution of Council dustbins under the 'bin' scheme has been taken up extremely well by the public, and to date no cases have arisen where compulsory action for the provision of a bin has been necessary.

A shortage of suitable covering material for refuse tips is a problem which is unlikely to be solved until the Council's refuse service can deposit at one central pit where adequate plant and labour can be employed whole time on tip maintenance.

A further encouraging increase in the level of salvage income can be noted for the year. This is not due to the increased value of waste paper - on the contrary, during the year the value of certain types of waste paper showed a decline. Looking back on the collection figures for waste paper for the past ten years the figure for 1960 is almost double that achieved in any other year during that period. The upward trend in the volume of waste paper appeared to commence with the instigation of the weekly refuse collection, and would tend to indicate that where people can rely upon their paper being taken away regularly in smaller quantities they are apt to take advantage of this facility.

1960 Collection

Waste paper (weight 77 tons)	- value	£382. 0. 0.
Other Scrap (metals etc.)	- value	£ 86. 10. 0.
Total for salvage		<u>£468. 10. 0.</u>
1959 Salvage collection income		<u>£282. 15. 10.</u>



4. TABLE OF INSPECTIONS.      Inspections made by the Public Health Inspector during the year.

Premises Inspected				Total Inspections	
				1960	(1959)
<u>Housing:</u>					
Condemned Properties	...	...	...	73	(47)
Survey and Classification	...	...	...	972	(74)
Defects and Nuisances	...	...	...	39	(42)
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	262	(109)
Rent Acts	...	...	...	5	(2)
Overcrowding	...	...	...	7	(5)
Drainage	...	...	...	44	(75)
Applications for Council Houses	...	...	...	53	(-)
<u>Food Premises:</u>					
Meat Inspection	...	...	...	214	(249)
Butchers	...	...	...	17	(13)
Bakers	...	...	...	3	(11)
General Stores	...	...	...	52	(79)
Fried Fish	...	...	...	2	(4)
Cafes and Catering Premises	...	...	...	7	(4)
Mobile Shops	...	...	...	1	(11)
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	8	(34)
Unsound Foodstuffs	...	...	...	4	(5)
Dairies	...	...	...	5	(9)
Schools	...	...	...	1	(7)
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	9	(-)
<u>Caravans:</u>					
Caravans	...	...	...	63	(58)
Caravan Sites	...	...	...	12	(19)
<u>Rats and Mice:</u>					
Tips	...	...	...	6	(17)
Sewers and Sewage Works	...	...	...	2	(18)
General	...	...	...	11	(19)
Contracts	...	...	...	6	(-)
<u>Factories:</u>					
Powered Factories	...	...	...	15	(24)
Non-Powered	...	...	...	3	(4)
Outworkers	...	...	...	-	(4)
<u>Petroleum:</u>					
Inspection of Installations (including tank tests)				70	(187)
Interviews:	...	...	...	179	(208)
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	19	(65)
Problem Families	...	...	...	4	(4)
Poultry Dressers	...	...	...	3	(2)
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	-	(2)
Explosives	...	...	...	7	(9)
Agricultural Properties (Safety, Health & Welfare)				4	(6)
Show Grounds and Fairs	...	...	...	-	(6)
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	4	(8)
Water Supply	...	...	...	17	(8)
Ponds, Pools and Ditches	...	...	...	5	(23)
Bathing Places (samples)	...	...	...	4	(-)
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	2	(5)
Other Nuisances	...	...	...	5	(17)
Flooding	...	...	...	3	(-)
Sewer connections and pail conversions:				22	(-)
Insect Infestation	...	...	...	6	(-)
Lectures	...	...	...	1	(-)
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	28	(41)



5. FACTORIES ACT. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		Occs. Pros.
		Inspections	Written Notices	
(I) Factories in which Sections 1,2 3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	9	3	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	57	15	3	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. * (excluding out - workers' premises).	35	28	2	Nil
Totals:	101	46	5	Nil

\* i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 103 (i)), Institutions (Section 104) and sites of Building Operation and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Reported		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Insufficient Sanitary (S.7)					
Conveniences. (a)	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
Unsuitable or defective. (b)	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Want of cleanliness.	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act not including Outworkers.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals:	4	4	Nil	1	Nil

OUTWORK

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(a)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council.
Wearing Apparel (Making etc.).	3	Nil
Making boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper.	14	1

Note: \* All Outworkers are employed as contractors, the total number of persons engaged on this work is not known.



## 6. SHOPS AND OFFICES.

One contravention of the Shops Acts was noted and rectified during the year.

## 7. CARAVANS.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act came into force during the year and the opportunity was taken to right many of the things which had given cause for concern. The standards approved by the Council were realistic and reasonable despite protests from some site owners. The suggested standards embodied in the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Model Standards 1960 under section 4 were not as high as had been hoped, particularly in respect of lavatory accommodation. It is not unreasonable to require one W.C. per family and this standard is being adhered to by the Council.

Seasonal itinerant agricultural workers are still a cause for concern but are exempt from the provisions of the Act. Why this particular section of the community should be allowed to adopt standards far below the average citizen is difficult to understand.

## 8. SWIMMING BATHS AND BATHING PLACES.

Samples taken from the various bathing places on the rivers in the district again showed their liability to pollution and this fact was given publicity in the local Press. No further action was considered necessary. Investigation into high bacterial counts indicated pollution from grazing land following heavy rain.

## 9. INSECT AND OTHER INFESTATIONS.

Only one case of flea infestation was notified during the year. The occupier being incapable of looking after herself, it was necessary to take action under Section 84 of the Public Health Act 1936 and the property was disinfested and cleansed. Some eighteen sacks full of unsound food and other insanitary articles were removed and destroyed. An unpleasant task for the staff but a worthwhile conclusion was reached as the property is now to be modernised and the occupier is being cared for.

Other infestations dealt with were as follows :-

Bees .....	1	Crickets .....	1
Wasps .....	10	Cockroaches .....	1
Flies .....	1	Gnats .....	1

## 10. RODENT CONTROL.

There was no change in the staff during the year. The contract to treat Service property was obtained and brought in a useful contribution to relieve the total cost of the service. Income for the year, including that from contracts, amounted to £131.0.0.

The autumn and winter brought heavy demands for the services available and although the public were quick to notify infestations, agricultural land was, in most cases, the source. Details of the year's work is shown in the chart on page 14.



11. SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There were no complaints relating to smoke during the year and no plant was installed likely to give rise to nuisance.

12. PETROLEUM AND EXPLOSIVES.

The majority of the installations in the area were pressure tested in 1959, consequently less of this work was needed in the year under review. However, tanks reaching the appropriate age were tested and the following list shows the work done :-

	Number	Passed	Failed
Existing tanks tested	7	7	Nil
New tanks tested	11	11	Nil
Number of tanks converted from other fuel		1	
Number of tanks discontinued		Nil	

No new explosive licences were issued but routine visits were paid to shops selling fireworks, and circular letters were sent to all licencees warning them of the need for care in handling and storage.

The fireworks factory in the district is licensed and controlled by the Home Office.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.  
Report for 12 months ended 31st. December 1960.

Name of Local Authority ...Thingoe R.D.C...... County W. Suffolk.

	Type of Property				(5) Agricult- ural.
	Non - Agricultural				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses	(3) All Other Premises	(4) Total of Cols.1.2.3.	
1.Number of properties in Local Authority's District.	41	5,555	1,457	7,053	389
2.Number of properties inspected as a result of a. notification	---	111	5	116	2
b. survey under Act	2	123	2	127	17
c. otherwise	38	1,028	3	1,069	4
3.Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections.	42	---	30	---	65
4.Number of properties inspected in Sec.2 which were found to be infested :					
a.Rats Major	1	11	1	13	2
Minor	---	62	2	64	5
b.Mice Major	---	---	---	---	---
Minor	---	8	---	8	---
5.Number of infested properties (Sec.4) treated by L.A.	1	81	3	85	4
6.Number of total treatments carried out including re-treatments	3	103	30	136	37
7.Number of notices served under Sec.4 of the Act.a. Treatment	---	---	---	---	---
b. Structural Work	---	---	---	---	---
8.Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice.	---	---	---	---	---
9.Legal Proceedings.	---	---	---	---	---
10.Number of "Block" Control schemes carried out.		44			



## HOUSING

### 1. CLEARANCE OF UNFIT PROPERTIES.

The first five year programme is now at an end and the target achieved. A new programme must be decided upon after completion of the house to house survey which is still in progress. There is one consolation in the delay of this survey; it is due to the demand from the owners for reports on properties with a view to their modernisation, which is resulting in a diminution of the number of unfit properties. This is gratifying in itself. By the end of the year 31 parishes had been surveyed with 27 remaining to be completed or commenced.

The realisation that there is more to living than having four damp walls, a leaking roof and few other amenities is dawning slowly but surely upon many occupiers and owners. No one should shed a tear because the days of the well and pail closet are numbered, but this should be welcomed as progress, despite the inevitable increase in house rents which follow.

The summary below shows the year's progress in the clearance of unfit houses and is taken from the quarterly returns to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

How Dealt With	Number Demolished	No. Displaced in Year	
		Persons	Families
A. Clearance Areas	Nil	Nil	Nil
Individual Unfit Properties	21	15	8

How Dealt With	Number Closed	No. Displaced in Year	
		Persons	Families
B. Closing Orders	6	18	6

How Dealt With	Rendered Fit
C. Public Health Act	32
Housing Act	3

D. Unfit Houses Retained For Temporary Use	14
E. Purchased by Council	Nil

### 2. NEW BUILDING.

Whilst private building has gone on unabated, the Council have not found it easy to get tenders from builders. Only 10 houses were completed during the year. Ten dwellings from the 1959/60 and 16 from the 1960/61 programmes are scheduled for completion in 1961/62 and this delay is holding up further clearance of unfit properties. 86 private properties were completed during the year.



### 3. MODERNISATION.

#### (a) COUNCIL HOUSES.

Forty two houses were modernised during the year and work was in progress on a further 24. There still remain 223 to be modernised which could be dealt with as follows :-

On completion of current sewerage schemes	25
Isolated groups to have Septic Tank drainage	44
On completion of planned sewerage schemes 1962/63	65
On completion of planned sewerage schemes 1963/64	17
Unlikely to be included in next three year programme	72
Total :	223

Of these, the Council have approved the modernisation of 52 during 1961/62.

The sewerage of villages has a large bearing on the cost and ease of such work. Many houses were built in isolated positions rather than in the villages to satisfy the needs of the agricultural workers. The cost of modernising these properties is high due to the need to provide a treatment plant for their wastes. Again this is not easy in areas of clay soils where it is often almost impossible to dispose of treated effluent.

#### (b) PRIVATE PROPERTIES.

Although the full extent of private modernisations is not precisely known, the fact that 83 applications for improvement grants were approved during 1960, bringing the total to 341, is evidence of the interest shown by owners. In addition, over 200 visits were paid to properties in answer to requests for advice on modernisation. This is progress, but there is still scope for more improvements and a quickening of the pace. Every encouragement is being given to owners to improve their properties and there is no doubt that the increasing number of cottages now untenanted because of the absence of amenities is making itself felt.

### 4. OVERCROWDING.

The housing survey has brought more overcrowding to light and the position at the end of 1960 was :-

Known cases on register at 1st. January, 1960.	5
New cases discovered.	9
Families rehoused or removed.	4
Remaining on register at 31st. December, 1960.	10

Of these ten, five are housing applicants, four are in properties for which applications have been made for Improvement Grants, and it is anticipated that the remaining case will solve itself in the near future.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### 1. MILK.

Two new Special Designation Licences were issued during the year to retailers residing outside the district. The number of such licences issued are shown in the following table.

Designation	Number of Licences Issued	
	Principal	Supplementary
Tuberculin Tested	3	3
Pasteurised	5	9
Sterilised	4	3
Tuberculin Tested/Pasteurised	5	8
Totals	17	23

Copies of reports on samples taken by the staff of the West Suffolk County Council were submitted for information, all were satisfactory.

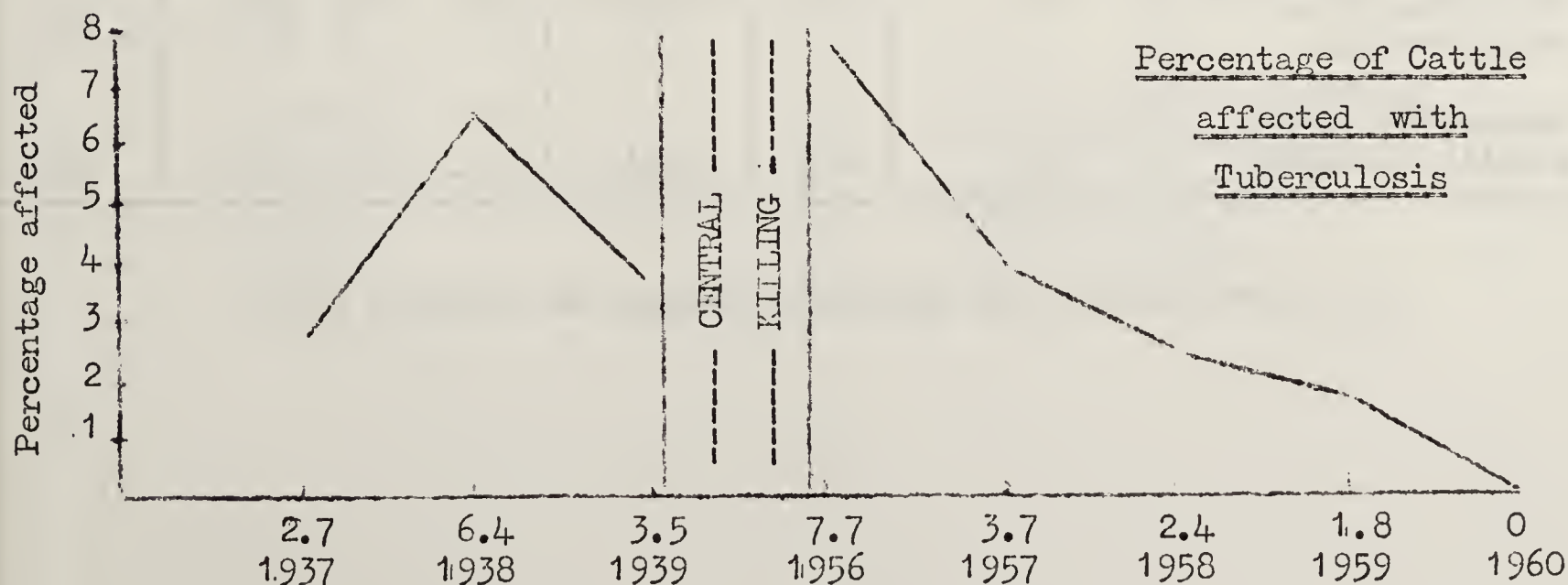
The only pasteurising plant in the area closed during the year, supplies now being obtained from Kings Lynn. A sample of raw milk found to contain organisms of brucella abortus was investigated and although most of the milk was sent for pasteurising, the producer's family were using some of it raw. The family were advised to parboil the milk before use. Only three cows were kept, all having been S.19 vaccinated.

### 2. MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Again, thanks are due to the Inspectors of the Borough of Bury St. Edmunds who continued to ensure that all holiday periods were covered enabling another year of 100% meat inspection to be recorded. This is of course post mortem inspection, it being impossible to inspect every animal either ante mortem or at the time of slaughter.

The report on slaughterhouses was submitted for approval and had not been approved by the end of the year. However, only two slaughterhouses were licensed and these are likely to continue in use. One application for a licence was made in case it was necessary to construct a new slaughterhouse in the district but this was not taken up.

The following tables show the numbers of animals killed and the incidence of disease. This is a historic report in that for the first time ever there has been no tuberculosis detected in cattle in the slaughterhouses. When one compares the incidence over the last 24 years the success of the Eradication schemes is vividly shown and everyone concerned is to be congratulated.





Carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in  
whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (All were inspected).	169	Nil	Nil	102	162	Nil
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	9	Nil	Nil	1	19	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	5.9%	0%	0%	1%	12.3%	0%
<u>Tuberculosis Only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	7	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	0%	0%	0%	0%	4.3%	0%
<u>Cysticercosis Only.</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The above table is in the form requested in Circular 17/55



The following is a list of unfit meat surrendered and the diseases and conditions encountered :-

<u>Cattle</u>		<u>Pigs</u>	
Livers, (distoma)	4	Livers, (necrosis)	4
Liver, (echinococcus)	1	Livers, (cirrhosis)	3
Part Liver, (distoma)	1	Livers, (bacterial necrosis)	6
Part Liver, (necrosis)	1	Heads, (tuberculosis)	4
Part Liver, (adhesions and necrosis)	1	Hearts, (pericarditis)	2
Carcass, (c.bovis)	1	Head & Guts, (tuberculosis)	1
Head & Tongue, (c.bovis)	1	Head & Tongue, (tuberculosis)	1
Kidney & Fat, (necrosis)	1	Head, Tongue & Guts, (tuberculosis)	1
Carcass & Offal, (moribund)	1	Skin, (urticaria)	1
		Carcass & Offal, (fever due to blocked bowel and pericarditis)	1
		Lungs, (congestion)	1
		Kidney, (nephritis)	1
		Part Loin, (cysticercosis)	1
<u>Sheep</u>			
Liver, (parasites)	1		

### Other Foods.

Other foodstuffs found to be unfit by retailers were returned to their wholesalers for disposal. The entire stock of one shop was examined on change of ownership resulting in the voluntary surrender of a considerable quantity of unfit food which, though not offered for sale was stored on the premises.

### 3. FOOD HYGIENE.

The time available for this essential work has not been sufficient to ensure the progress hoped for. Frequent visits to all food premises must be made to ensure the maintenance of high standards and this has not been possible. The increasing demands for the services of the Department make it necessary to appoint additional staff if the public are to have the service and protection to which they are entitled.

There were the average number of changes in ownership of shops but two general stores closed during the year. One butchers shop closed after the Committee had interviewed the owner concerning repeated failure to comply with the structural requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Modifications have been carried out to some of the school canteens, and the modernisation of licensed premises with the provision of washing facilities and waterborne sanitation has continued. It has however been necessary to warn some shopkeepers who have failed to comply with the Regulations.

The number of food premises by type as at 31st. December, 1960 were as follows :-

General Stores	68	Wet and Fried Fish Shops	3
Butchers	110	Meat Manufacturers	1
Bakers and Confectioners	8	Licensed Premises	57
Sweets	11	Works Canteens	3
Cafes	3	School Kitchens	8
Nursing Institutions			1

4. ICE CREAM.

New registrations during the year totalled six. Again no samples were taken during the year but a lot of time was spent advising shopkeepers on correct storage, particularly during power cuts in the winter months.

5. TRAVELLING SHOPS.

No complaints were received during the year concerning travelling shops, the number of which have been reduced.





